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Serial No. 09/772,000

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 2, 12, and 14-23 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A text messaging system including a plurality of information terminals provided with communications means, and servers connected to the information terminals via communication lines responsive to the communications means, the text messaging system comprising:

a plurality of transmission means having different transmission modes provided in each of the information terminals for transmitting to the servers text messages addressed to other of the information terminals;

reception means provided in the information terminals for receiving from the servers a text message from other of the information terminals;

status detection means provided in the information terminals for detecting and reporting to the servers an operational status of the each transmission means including at least a change of status of the connection with the communication lines;

reception means provided in the servers for receiving text messages from any one of the information terminals;

status administration means provided in the servers for storing, per user of any one of the information terminals, the operational status, including the change of status, of the each transmission means of each information terminal reported from said status detection means;

determining means provided in the servers for referring to the operational status, including the change of status, stored by the status administration means of an information terminal that is a destination of the text message received from the information terminal, and for dynamically determining a message destination or a transmission means and transmission mode for the received text messages according to the stored operational status and change of status; and

transmission means provided in the servers for transmitting text messages received from the information terminals to the destination information terminal according to the dynamically determined transmission mode using the dynamically determined transmission means.